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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/604,787	08/17/2003	Larry W. Collum		1786

7590 04/04/2005

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Newington, CT 06111

EXAMINER

BLAU, STEPHEN LUTHER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3711

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/604,787

Applicant(s)

COLLUM ET AL.

Examiner

Stephen L. Blau

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3711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2,3,6,7,10,11 and 14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,5 and 8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Oath/Declaration

1. It was not executed in accordance with either 37 CFR 1.66 or 1.68. The oath is not signed.

Specification

2. The substitute specification with the changes to the disclosure are agreed with and the objections are removed.

Response to Amendment

3. The status identifiers used for the claims are not the approved status identifiers. The identifier (amended herein) should have been (currently amended). This must be corrected in the next response or else the response will be treated as a non-responsive amendment. See article 714. II. C (MPEP).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

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4. It is noted that the applicant has withdrawn claims 2-3, 6-7, and 10-11. However since some of the independent claims are being allowed and the applicant may reintroduce these claims for prosecution, it is noted that there is improper antecedent basis in these claims. Claims 2-3, 6-7, and 10-11 recites the limitations "the wood" and "the wooden golf club head ". A wooden golf club head had not been previously disclosed due to the recent amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 9 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maxel in view of Sherwood and Hueber.

Maxel discloses a Sand Wedge having a loft of 54 degrees (Table in Cols. 1-2).

Maxel lacks a lie angle ranging between 66-70 degrees and a shaft length ranging between 34.5 and 37.5 inches.

Sherwood discloses Sand Wedges having a lie angle of 66 degrees (Table 1). Hueber discloses a shaft length of 35.5 inches for a Sand Wedge (Table 1). In view of the patent of Sherwood it would have been obvious to modify the Sand Wedge of Maxel to have a lie angle ranging between 66-70 degrees in order to utilize a lie angle used in

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the market place for Sand Wedges. In view of the patent of Hueber it would have been obvious to modify the Sand Wedge of Maxel to have a shaft length ranging between 34.5 and 37.5 inches in order to utilize a shaft length used in the market place for Sand Wedges.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1, 4-5, and 8 are allowed. None of the prior art discloses or renders as obvious the combination of loft angle, lie angle and shaft length. The examiner has determined that it would not be obvious to combine the teaching of Mason with Liao since Liao specifically does not want a longer shaft for the selected lofts and lies chosen.

8. Claim 12 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. None of the prior art discloses or renders as obvious the combination of loft angle, lie angle and shaft length.

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

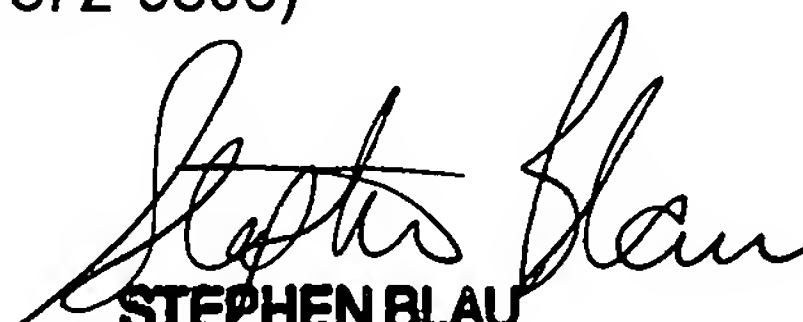
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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steve Blau whose telephone number is (571) 272-4406. The examiner is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. If the examiner is unavailable you can contact his supervisor Greg Vidovich whose telephone number is (571) 272-4415. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0858. (TC 3700 Official Fax 703-872-9306)

slb/ 31 March 2005


STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER